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Legislative Hearing Friday, March 11, 2016  
An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and  
The Sellers of Bottles Water  
Support for Substitute SB422

Dear members of the Planning and Development Committee,

I am writing in support of Senator Beth Bye's substitute Water Bill, SB 422.

We need to keep in mind that although we have never had a severe drought in our part of the country, that does not preclude that we never will. Global warming and climate change may change all that, as it did in California. For Niagara to come in here and bottle water for sale is ludicrous and unacceptable! Water is a basic human right and a public resource, not a commercial asset to be privatized for corporate profit.

Niagara or any water bottler will be taking our water, fill the environment with plastic pollution and profit. All the while we residents will be conserving and paying more.

I ask that the Special Sewer Service Charge discount for water bottlers be rescinded. No discounts for corporations. Also that the a MDC watchdog committee be re-established and a moratorium be imposed on any new large capacity agreements until the State Water Plan is completed and addresses the issue of water bottling companies diverting water out of watersheds.

Thank you.

Sister Patricia Colla